Message Text

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TAGS: EINV,EMIN,PFOR,PE,US

SUBJ: MARCONA EXPROPRIATION - PRESIDENT VELASCO'S MESSAGE

REF: LIMA 6029

1. ON JULY 26 GOP RELEASED MESSAGE TO NATION DATED JULY 25 FROM PRESIDENT VELASCO ON MARCONA NATIONALIZATION. KEY POINTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. VELASCO NOTED THAT MARCONA HAD DAMAGED THE RIGHTS AND WELL-BEING OF THE REVOLUTION, BUT THAT NOW MARCONA BELONGED TO THE PEOPLE. IT WAS PERU'S SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO NATIONALIZE COMPANY, THUS ENHANCING THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT'S FREEDOM LOVING AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST IMAGE. "OURS ARE NOT SPONTANEOUS NOR DEMOGOGIC ACTS. THEY ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE CONSCIENCE... OF OUR GREAT PEOPLE WHICH IS CHARACTERIZED BY A LARGE MEASURE OF SERENITY AND DISPASSION. THEREFORE WE DO NOT ACT BLINDLY NOR INDISCRIMINATELY".....

B. REASON OF NATIONAL CHARACTER AND IDEOLOGY, PERU DOES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT INJURE ANYONE, "BUT NEITHER WILL WE ACCEPT OPEN OR HIDDEN

AGGRESSION...BY POWERVUL TRANSNATIONAL CONSORTIUMS WHICH BY DOING SO TAKE ON UNACCEPTABLE AND IMPERIALISTIC CHARACTERISTICS THIS GOVERNMENT WILL NEVER TOLERATE".... "IN PERU WE THE PERUVIANS COMMAND, AND THAT NO ONE SHOULD FORGET. BECAUSE WE HAVE A PROFOUND RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS AND HAVE AN HONEST VOCATION FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, WE DEMAND IDENTICAL CONDUCT FROM THOSE WHO...THINK THAT THEY ARE ACTING IN THE DARK PAST THAT WE ARE ERRADICATING FROM OUR COUNTRY. THOSE WHO TRY TO KEEP ALIVE PRACTICES AND CONDUCT THAT YIELDED JUICY PROFITS IS OBSEQUIOUS, PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PERU, MAKE A TRAGIC MISTAKE.... WE ARE NOT NOR WILL WE EVER BE A COLONY OR A NEOCOLONY OF ANYONE, MUCH LESS OF THOSE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS THAT DO NOT KNOW HOW TO RESPECT OUR LAWS NOR THE PROFOUND JUSTICE OF OUR CAUSE."

- C. "THOSE WHO ADHERE TO OUR CLEAN CONDUCT AND TO OUR CLEAR RULES OF THE GAME IN CONTRUCTUAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY INSOFAR AS THEY RELATE TO THE EXPLOITATION OF OUR...NATIONAL RESOURCES, MUST ONLY EXPECT FROM US OUR RESPECT AND OUR FRIENDLY HAND. THOSE ON THE CONTRARY WHO BREAK THAT CODE OF CONDUCT AND THOSE REULES OF THE GAME HAVE NOTHING TO DO IN PERU, AND WE DO NOT TOLERATE, NOR WILL WE TOLERATE, THEIR PREDATORY AND IMPERIALISTIC PRESENCE....."
- D. BALANCE OF SPEECH WAS EXHORTATION TO WORKERS OF MARCONA TO TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE NEW HIERRO PERU AND TO EXCEED FORMER LEVELS OF PRODUCTION AS HAD THEIR FELLOWS IN PETROPERU AND CENTROMIN, BOTH FORMERLY POWERFUL FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.
- 2. COMMENT: PRESIDENT VELASCO'S MESSAGE WAS CONSIDERABLY LESS EXTREME THAN THE REMARKS OF MINES MINISTER FERNANDEZ MALDONADO, ALTHOUGH IT ALSO EMPHASIZED MARCONA'S INFRACTIONS OF PERUVIAN RULES OF THE GAME WHICH GAVE GOP SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO EXPROPRIATE THE COMPANY. AS IN THE CASE OF THE MINES MINISTER'S REMARKS, THE MESSAGE, FOR ALL ITS REFERENCES TO IMPERIALISM, CAREFULLY AVOIDED ANY SPECIFIC MENTION OF THE UNITED STATES. A COPY OF VELASCO' MESSAGE IS BEING POUCHED.

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